

Plant means any place of business where egg products are processed:

(a) *Exempted plant* means any plant where the Administrator has determined the facilities and operating procedures meet such standards as may be prescribed by this part, and where the eggs received or used in the manufacture of egg products contain no more restricted eggs than are allowed by the official standards of U.S. Consumer Grade B for shell eggs, and where an exemption has been granted.

(b) *Official plant* means any plant in which the plant facilities, methods of operation and sanitary procedures have been found suitable and adequate by the Administrator for the continuous inspection of egg products in accordance with this part and in which inspection service is carried on.

Potable water means water that has been approved by a State health authority or other agency or laboratory acceptable to the Administrator as safe for drinking and suitable for food processing.

Processing means manufacturing of egg products, including breaking eggs or filtering, mixing, blending, pasteurizing, stabilizing, cooling, freezing or drying, or packaging egg products at official plants.

Producer-packer means any producer who sorts eggs only from his own production and packs them into their various qualities.

Quality means the inherent properties of any product which determine its relative degree of excellence.

Regional Director means any employee of the Department in charge of inspection service in a designated geographical region.

Regulations means the provisions in this part.

Regulatory inspector means any employee of the U.S. Government, or State or local jurisdiction, who is authorized by the Secretary to make such inspections as required in § 57.28 of these regulations.

Sampling means the act of taking samples of any product for inspection or analyses.

Sanitize means the application of a bactericidal treatment which is approved as being effective in destroying microorganisms, including pathogens.

Secretary means the Secretary of Agriculture or his delegate.

Service means the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) of the Department.

Shell egg packer (grading station) means any person engaged in the sorting of eggs from sources other than or in addition to his own production into their various qualities, either mechanically or by other means.

Stabilization means the subjection of any egg product to a desugaring process.

State means any State of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the District of Columbia.

Ultimate consumer means any household consumer, restaurant, institution, or any other party who has purchased or received shell eggs or egg products for consumption.

United States means the States.

Washed ungraded eggs means eggs which have been washed but not sized or segregated for quality.

White or albumen means, for the purpose of this part, the product obtained from the egg as broken from the shell and separated from the yolk.

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ADMINISTRATION

§ 57.10 Authority.

The Administrator shall perform, for and under the supervision of the Secretary, such duties as the Secretary may require in the enforcement or administration of the provisions of the Act, and this part. The Administrator may waive for a limited period any particular provisions of the regulations to permit experimentation so that new procedures, equipment, and processing techniques may be tested to facilitate definite improvements and at the same time to maintain full compliance with the spirit and intent of the regulations. The Agricultural Marketing Service and its officers and employees shall not be liable in damages through acts of commission or omission in the administration of this part.

§ 57.13 Federal and State cooperation.

The Secretary shall, whenever he determines that it would effectuate the